

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

I. General Remarks and Disposition of the Claims.

Claims 1, 4 and 6-54 were pending in this application. Claims 4, 16, 18-31 and 45-54 stand rejected. Claims 17 and 32-44 have been withdrawn from consideration. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 1 and 6-15 are allowable. Applicants have canceled claims 4 and 16-54 by way of this response. Therefore, this application is now believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicants reserve their right to take up prosecution on the claims as originally filed in an appropriate continuing application.

SUMMARY

In light of the above remarks and arguments, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit early notice of the same. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney of record by telephone, facsimile or electronic mail, as indicated below.

Applicants believe that there are no additional fees due in association with the filing of this Response. However, should the Commissioner deem that any additional fees are due, including any fees for extensions of time, Applicants respectfully request that the Commissioner accept this as a Petition Therefore, and direct that any additional fees be charged to Baker Botts L.L.P. Deposit Account No. 02-0383, Order Number 063718.0399.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P. (023640)

Date: August 16, 2007

By: 

Paul R. Morico
Registration No. 35,960
One Shell Plaza
910 Louisiana Street
Houston, Texas 77002-4995
Telephone: 713.229.1732
Facsimile: 713.229.7732
email: paul.morico@bakerbotts.com

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)